

# The Dispatch.

PROVO CITY, APRIL 8, 1891.

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JAMES H. WALLIS, - - Manager.

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## THAT PETITION.

The retail liquor dealers have formulated a petition to be presented to the City Council of Provo for their action. That petition, however, is not a petition. It is a demand, a compulsory article without the power of compelling. Strange, unique, comical. It is a rare specimen of mixed right and wrong. No one will say but what the saloon men, in common with all Americans, have a legal right to petition, and in it set forth their grievances, but common sense should always dictate that the contents be in harmony with the sensible requirements of the petitioners; should have a sparkling regard for those to whom it is directed, and should be of that nature that commands respect rather than otherwise.

Men in position are not accustomed to readily yield to a stern demand, to a compulsory decree, unless it be from an authoritative source, and even then they obey grudgingly. It is human nature to resist egotistical demands. The Mayor and City Councilors have not lost that nature because of their position.

It is evident that the saloon men everywhere, when they have complied with the requirements of the law governing their business, should be protected in their legitimate pursuit, and those who are known to infringe upon their rights should pay the penalty. Discrimination in favor of a certain class who sell liquor against another class engaged in the same business is a wrong that should not exist. Twelve hundred dollars a year is a good sized license to pay for the privilege of selling intoxicants; it is none too much unless another class is allowed to sell the same stuff for a less price. In such a case a conflict necessarily arises and the injured ones have a just right to ask for redress. No one will deny that right. But the manner and the method of asking should be of a consistent character, and the matter to be presented should harmonize throughout. This petition falls in these.

The petition says: "We think that there are rights which belong to men in our business." True, and there are rights belonging to all men, some of which are sacred, the rights of wives and mothers, rights that petition every day and every night, unseen but present, before the City Council of Provo, asking it to use its best means to save their husbands and sons from the degradation of becoming drunkards.

The first grievance sets forth: "We believe others are conducting the same business, to-wit: The sale of and disposal of intoxicating liquors, without license." If others sell or in any way dispose of intoxicating drinks without a license, it is a wrong of no small magnitude. By it they infringe upon the license rights of legalized business, rob it of its legitimate patronage, afford a shelter for gamblers, and are inviting places, often times for crime to find a lodgment.

The second grievance is about police officers invading their saloons by a claim of right, thus intimidating "regular customers" and "in a manner coercing them," so that their business has not been as profitable as it might be. Is not a licensed saloon, a public house? Is it not under the protection of the law? Is it not a fact that offences and crimes are more often committed in saloons than in any other public place? And is it not the duty of the law by its proper agents to preserve order, to quell disturbance and prevent crime? Further, is it not a fact that the presence of a policeman in a saloon, as well as other places, has, by virtue of his authority, a tendency to preserve order and sustain the "morals of the community?"

The signers are evidently trying to perpetrate a joke on the Council when they say that the presence of the policeman intimidates and coerces "regular customers." "Regular customers" have a different fibre, a fibre which shines nor fear nor intimidation nor coercion can have but little effect. They are impregnable.

The petition asks the council to pass an ordinance prohibiting the presence of minors in saloons, and in this they pledge their support in order to "preserve the morals of the community." This is sensible talk, it is a needed reform. If their entire line of presentation ran parallel with this no one

could find fault. But when they desire to "preserve the morals of the community" in one paragraph, and in another say that their purpose is to "demand and compel" the city to give them the right to keep open their saloons continuously from Monday morning until Saturday night, the charm is broken.

The petition says: "Our purpose is to demand and compel the city to give to us the right we have asked for. To open on Monday morning at 10 o'clock and keep open until Saturday midnight." Why not extend the time to include Sunday in order to fully "preserve the morals of the community?"

The saloon men have spoken. They have presented their views. The public will now have their say, and the Council will take action upon the demands of the liquor dealers. And the public and the Council will declare in earnest voice: "We will use our best efforts to keep minors away from the saloons; we will assist the saloon keepers in breaking down those secret dens complained of, where liquor is sold by unauthorized persons, and where crime lurks unseen; we will use our best efforts not to discriminate against the saloon man who pays his honest license fee; we will believe that a vast change will take place in the constitution of man, when a policeman can by his presence in a saloon 'intimidate or coerce a regular customer;' and, further, we protest, and by these presents do declare that our regard for the 'morals of the community' will not allow us to even tolerate the idea of keeping open the saloons from Monday morning till Saturday night continuously."

Notice to Stockholders.  
The meeting of the stockholders of the Dixon Publishing Company for the election of officers for the ensuing year will take place at the old "Gazette" building "J" Street, Provo City, Utah, on April 15th, 1891. At that meeting also the stockholders of said corporation will be requested to vote upon the proposition to amend the articles of incorporation so that thereafter the chief place of business of said corporation will be Ogden, Utah, instead of Provo, Utah, and the publication to be printed there to be known as *The Salt Lake Valley Gazette*. Other matters of importance will also come up.

CHARLES W. HEMENWAY, Secretary.  
Provo, March 14, 1891.

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We offer One Hundred Dollars reward for any case of catarrh that cannot be cured by taking Hall's Catarrh Cure.

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PROBATE NOTICE.  
IN THE PROBATE COURT IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF UTAH, Territory of Utah, in the matter of the estate of Charles H. Williams, deceased.

Order appointing time and place for settlement of final account and to hear petition for distribution.  
On reading and filing the petition of Sarah A. Cooper and James T. Williams, administrators of the estate of Charles H. Williams, deceased, setting forth that he has died his final account of his administration upon said estate in this Court; that all the debts of said estate have been fully paid, and that a portion of said estate remains to be divided among the heirs of said deceased, and praying among other things for an order allowing said final account and of distribution of the residue of said estate among the persons entitled.

It is ordered that all persons interested in the estate of the said Charles H. Williams, deceased, be and appear before the Probate Court of the County of Utah, at the court room of said Court, on the 25th day of April, 1891, at 10 o'clock a. m., then and there to show cause why an order allowing said final account and of distribution should not be made of the residue of said estate among the heirs and devisees of the said Charles H. Williams, deceased, according to law.

It is further ordered that the Clerk cause notices to be posted in three public places in Utah County, and a copy of this order to be published in THE DISPATCH, a newspaper printed and circulated in Utah County, four weeks successively prior to said 25th day of April, 1891.

JOSEPH D. JONES, Probate Judge.

Dated March 28, 1891.

TESTIMONY OF UTAH, ss.  
I, V. L. Halliday, Clerk of the Probate Court in and for Utah County, Territory of Utah, hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the original order appointing time and place for settlement of final account, and to hear petition for distribution in the estate of Charles H. Williams, deceased, and now on file and of record in my office.

Witness my hand and the seal of said Probate Court at my office in Provo City, this [SEAL] 28th day of March, A. D. 1891.

V. L. HALLIDAY, Clerk of the Probate Court, Utah Co., U. T.

M. L. PRATT,  
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